

THE MILITANT

INSIDE

Lessons of US bombing of Hiroshima, Nagasaki

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A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF WORKING PEOPLE

VOL. 80/NO. 30 AUGUST 15, 2016

No end to 15 years of US war in Afghanistan

BY BRIAN WILLIAMS

Nearly 15 years after U.S. troops invaded Afghanistan, Washington has failed to create a regime that serves the U.S. rulers' interests with stable conditions that can stop the country from falling apart in sectarian violence. The Taliban — whose government Washington intervened to overturn — now controls more territory there than any time since 2001, and the Islamic State is also making gains.

The Barack Obama administration, which had earlier promised to withdraw all U.S. troops by 2014, authorized in June stepped-up airstrikes against the Taliban and more aggressive use of special forces. The Pentagon will maintain 8,400 troops in Afghanistan at least through the end of Obama's presidency, and an undisclosed number of additional troops

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'2016 US election campaign: Three parties and two classes'

Socialist Workers Party event opens new stage of campaigning

BY SETH GALINSKY

NEW YORK — "There are three parties in the 2016 elections: the two imperialist parties, the Democrats and Republicans, and one — the Socialist Workers Party — that represents the interests of the working class," said Norton Sandler at a social event and meeting here July 30 to kick off the SWP's next 100 days of campaigning.

The speakers were Alyson Kennedy, SWP candidate for U.S. president; Jacob Perasso, on leave from his job at CSX railroad to run as SWP candidate for U.S. Senate from New York; and Laurent Sylvestre from the Communist League in Canada.

More than 35 million people watched the Democratic and Republican Party conventions and the speeches of Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton, noted Sandler, organizer of the Socialist Workers Party in New York, who opened the program. What they saw was "a spectacle of hypoc-

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Militant/Ved Dookhun

SWP presidential candidate Alyson Kennedy headed out from New York meeting to campaign door to door in coal mining region where working people have been hit hard by layoffs. Above, Kennedy talks with Thomas Bailey in Westover, West Virginia, Aug. 2.

Oppose US imperialist war drive!

The following statement was released Aug. 3 by Alyson Kennedy, Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. president, and Osborne Hart, SWP candidate for vice president.

Socialist Workers Party campaign statement

The drums of war beat loudly at the conventions of the two parties of capitalist rule—the Democrats and Republicans. With belligerent speeches and chants of "USA," they gave a glimpse of the future they offer: more devastating wars abroad to shore up the interests of U.S. imperialism. Just in the last week, the Obama administration has sent additional "counterterrorism"

troops into Afghanistan and launched a new bombing campaign in Libya.

The Socialist Workers Party calls for immediate withdrawal of U.S. military forces from the Mideast and North Africa. This is in the interest of the international working class.

Look at the bloody record of the last quarter-century of Washington's wars and military operations—under Republican and Democratic administrations alike—from the first Gulf War in 1991, to Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Iraq again, Yemen, Libya, Syria and more. The human toll includes tens of thousands of combatants and hundreds of thousands of civilians killed, and millions displaced.

The toll includes Washington's can-

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Refusal to indict cops who killed Idaho rancher is 'a real cover-up'

BY EDWIN FRUIT

After months of delay Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden released a report July 29 on the killing of rancher Jack Yantis, 62, by two Adams County sheriff deputies near Council, Idaho, Nov. 1. Wasden announced that his office is "ethically bound not to file charges," asserting that he could not prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the cops had violated the law.

The delay in releasing the report,

based on an investigation by the Idaho State Police that was completed March 10, fueled anger over the killing. The report revealed that deputies Cody Roland and Brian Wood fired 20 bullets at Yantis, hitting him 12 times.

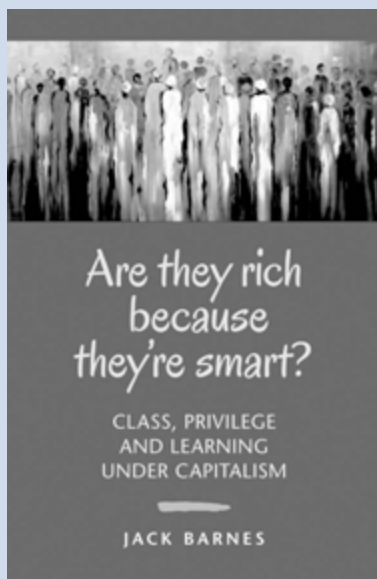
The day after the decision, hundreds at the Adams County Fair and Rodeo showed their support for the Yantis family, many wearing Justice for Jack shirts or holding pennants

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Are they rich because they're smart?

Class, privilege and learning under capitalism

by Jack Barnes



In the coming battles forced upon us by the capitalist rulers, says Barnes, workers will begin to transform ourselves and our attitudes toward life, work and each other. Only then will we discover our own worth and learn what we're capable of becoming.

Special offers
\$7 for book or
\$10 for book & subscription

See list on page 8 to join with Socialist Workers Party or Communist League nearest you to campaign with this book.

Our party is your party!

Cuban leader: 'It's up to US to dismantle its hostile policies'

BY EMMA JOHNSON

"Relations between Cuba and the U.S. have been asymmetric; therefore it is up to the U.S. to dismantle hostile unilateral policies," said Josefina Vidal, who leads Cuba's negotiating team with Washington. "Cuba doesn't have any comparable policies."

Vidal, director general for U.S. affairs at the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Relations, spoke to the Cuban Communist Party's daily *Granma* on the anniversary of the reopening of the Cuban Embassy in Washington on July 20 last year, some 54 years after the U.S. government unilaterally severed diplomatic relations with Havana.

Since the 1959 deep-going social

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Dockworkers in 150 countries carry out 1-hour work stoppage

‘I’m glad you’re here campaigning for SWP’

BY MAGGIE TROWE

The Socialist Workers Party is campaigning across the country, getting out the word about the only working-class alternative to the two parties of imperialism and war.

SWP presidential candidate Alyson Kennedy and supporters joined a march against police brutality in Philadelphia July 26, one of many actions organized during the Democratic National Convention there July 25-28.

Kennedy was greeted by Delphine Matthews, who has been active in this fight since her son Frank McQueen was killed by police in nearby Chester two years ago. “I’m glad you are here campaigning, Alyson,” Matthews said. “I can’t support any of these candidates that are coming to this convention.”

During one of the protests Kennedy met Dalton Roberts, 22, a mechanic who had hitchhiked from South Carolina for the demonstrations. He decided to spend several days campaigning with the Socialist Workers Party.

As they went door to door near the Mayfair Diner, a landmark frequented by capitalist politicians campaigning in northeast Philadelphia, Claire Houston invited Kennedy to sit at the shaded table in front of her row house.

“I can’t support Trump or Clinton,” she told Kennedy. “Neither one is going to do anything for older people like me who still have to work just to pay for medicine. Even with Social Security and my late husband’s Teamster pension, I have to work full time as a tax preparer eight months a year.”

Houston said she understood why so

many people take Trump seriously. “He talks big and says he can fix the problems we workers face. But he won’t fix things, he can’t do it.”

“Our party says the only way to get people back to work is to demand a massive public works program,” Kennedy said. “No matter who wins this fall, nothing much will change unless we organize independent action outside of their parties on the road to replacing this government of the capitalist class with a workers and farmers government.”

“I know, I don’t listen to any of them any more,” Houston responded. “I agree there has to be a real change.”

‘Let’s keep in touch’

In North Miami retired machinist Derrick Huslin invited supporters in to talk about the party and its program. He told them he’s fed up with the Obama administration’s disregard for the problems workers face, and says Clinton’s promise to continue those policies is a stab in the back.

Huslin got *Are They Rich Because They’re Smart? Class, Privilege and Learning Under Capitalism*, by SWP National Secretary Jack Barnes. The book is a good introduction to what the party stands for. He also subscribed to the *Militant* and contributed \$5. “Let’s keep in touch,” he said.

Mary Martin, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of Washington, campaigned in Seattle July 30 and met Robin Schwartz, 40, a preschool teacher in private school for children from well-off families. When Martin showed her *Are They Rich Because They’re Smart?*



Militant/John Naubert

Mary Martin, right, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of Washington, and preschool teacher Robin Schwartz discuss politics of new book *Are They Rich Because They’re Smart? Class, Privilege and Learning Under Capitalism* in Seattle July 30.

Schwartz responded positively.

“There’s a difference between what’s provided in the school where I teach and the public school my kids and a lot of immigrant children attend. It’s all about consolidating the power of the rich.”

In Monroe, Washington, campaigners met Judy Emery, an unemployed retail worker. “I don’t know anyone who trusts Clinton or wants her to become president,” Emery said. “I thought Trump might be OK since he’s from outside the establishment. But when he started talking, I saw he had no solutions for working people.”

Emery has a friend who lost his job, then his medical insurance, and was fined for not having any. “This isn’t a

health care system for us,” she said. She got a *Militant* subscription for herself, another for her son and a copy of *Are They Rich Because They’re Smart?*

The Spanish edition of that book will be off the press soon. Workers whose first language is Spanish can preorder and have the book delivered as soon as it comes out.

To join in campaigning for the Socialist Workers Party — or for the Communist League in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United Kingdom — contact party units listed on page 8.

Edwin Fruit in Seattle, John Staggs in Philadelphia and Anthony Dutrow in Miami contributed to this article.

Campaign with the Socialist Workers Party! Meet the candidates



Alyson Kennedy for president

Aug. 6-7 Miami
Aug. 10-12 Atlanta
Aug. 13-14 S. Georgia
Aug. 17-19 Chicago
Aug. 21-24 New York
Aug. 26-29 Seattle



Osborne Hart for vice president

Aug. 6-9 Minneapolis
Aug. 11-13 Oakland
Aug. 14-15 Fresno
Aug. 17-19 Los Angeles
Aug. 24-26 Australia
Aug. 28-31 New Zealand

Contact an SWP branch near you (see list on page 8) to get involved or contact the Socialist Workers Party 2016 Campaign
227 W. 29th St., 6th Fl., New York NY 10001.
Tel.: (646) 922-8186. Email: swp2016campaign@gmail.com

THE MILITANT

Oppose Washington’s war moves!

The ‘Militant’ covers protests against Washington’s wars and war preparations around the world. Farmers in South Korea protesting the U.S. plan to deploy anti-ballistic missile system directed against North Korea and China deserve the solidarity of workers in the U.S.



Minjung Yeonhap Party

July 15 protest in Seongju, South Korea, against deployment of U.S. missile system.

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Pacific Islands: Send NZ\$55 for one year to P.O. Box 3025, Auckland 1140, New Zealand.

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Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent the *Militant’s* views. These are expressed in editorials.

'Three parties, two classes'

Continued from front page
risky and fakery” that tried to cover up the conflicting class realities in the United States.

“The wealthy propertied rulers make the real decisions in the U.S. — it’s a dictatorship of capital,” he said.

“The Socialist Workers Party presents the opposite class course. We point a road forward for working people to take power out of the rulers’ hands. That’s the only way to end this historic, irresolvable crisis of world capitalism, which is ravaging the living and job conditions of working people here and around the world.”

Talking with workers across U.S.

“We’re going to campaign aggressively, talking to thousands of workers on their doorsteps,” Sandler said. A couple dozen people attending had spent the day campaigning for the SWP from Hicksville, New York, to Queens and Brooklyn, and Belleville, New Jersey.

The meeting came on the heels of weeks of campaigning in Vermont, Utah and Tennessee. Party supporters have been going door to door in workers’ neighborhoods in cities where they live and work, as well as joining efforts elsewhere. A few days after the New York meeting Kennedy was on her way to West Virginia to talk with coal miners and other workers.

In Washington, Utah, Minnesota and especially Vermont, SWP campaigners were joined by supporters of the Communist League in Canada.

More than 400 workers they spoke with in Vermont and Utah got the new book by SWP National Secretary Jack Barnes, *Are They Rich Because They’re Smart? Class, Privilege and Learning Under Capitalism*. “It’s a wonderful introduction to the Socialist Workers Party,” Sandler said.

He read from a message by a longtime Communist League leader. “The experience in Vermont was profound,” the message said. What we were explaining “was outside the electoral framework,” and many were interested in our view that it’s “through struggle that working people will gain the confidence to rebuild society in the interests of workers and farmers. Workers bought *Are They Rich Because They’re Smart?* on the basis of discussions like these.”

Among the 75 people attending the New York event were Shelia Reid, a fighter against police brutality, whose son Jerame was killed by cops in New

Jersey in 2014; Camilo Matos, a leader of the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party in New York; and Dalton Roberts, a young mechanic who met party campaigners just a few days earlier at a protest outside the Democratic Party convention and decided to join them in talking with workers about the campaign.

The two war parties

The Democratic Party presented itself as a war party at the Philadelphia convention, said Kennedy. Former CIA Director and Defense Secretary Leon Panetta called for Clinton’s election to send a message that “no one attacks America and gets away with it.”

Some Bernie Sanders supporters interrupted Panetta with chants of “No more war!” They were drowned out by shouts of “USA, USA” by other delegates, many waving “USA” placards printed for the stage-managed jingoistic event.

Shortly before Clinton’s acceptance speech, retired Marine Gen. John Allen, who once headed U.S. military operations in Afghanistan, took the stage with several dozen retired officers and war veterans to endorse her.

“Don’t let anyone tell you that our country is weak,” Clinton said during her speech.

Trump, Clinton and Sanders “want to make working people think that we’re all in this together,” Kennedy told the meeting. “Trump says ‘I will make America great again’ and Clinton says ‘America is already great.’

“But ‘America’ is class divided,” Kennedy said. “Workers have no common interests with the capitalists. There’s nothing ‘great’ about their policies and imperialist wars, which target working people here and abroad.”

Both the Democrats and the Republicans are war parties, Kennedy said. They’re dedicated to protecting the U.S. rulers’ interests in the wars Washington has been fighting nonstop for 15 years and others that are inevitable, spawned by the global capitalist crisis.

Clinton in her speech claimed that “our economy is so much stronger” than before Obama took office. The auto industry “just had its best year ever,” she said. “That’s real progress.”

“What world is she living in? And who does she mean by ‘our’ economy,” asked Kennedy, who joined the United Mine Workers union in 1981 and was among the first waves of women to work in underground coal mines.



Militant/Lea Sherman

Above, participants in July 30 Socialist Workers Party meeting in New York City.



Left, Jacob Perasso, SWP candidate for U.S. Senate and rail worker on leave from CSX. What SWP campaigners had to say found good response among workers in Vermont, where “rents in Burlington are skyrocketing” and many workers “only find part-time jobs while quarry workers are forced to work 60 hours a week.”

son Humayun, a captain in the U.S. Army, was one of thousands of soldiers who died as cannon fodder in Washington’s war in Iraq.

The Democrats cynically sought to use Khan’s death to bolster the rulers’

drive toward war, Perasso said. “The Socialist Workers Party calls for U.S. troops out of the Middle East. And we defend Muslims and mosques from attacks right here in the U.S.”

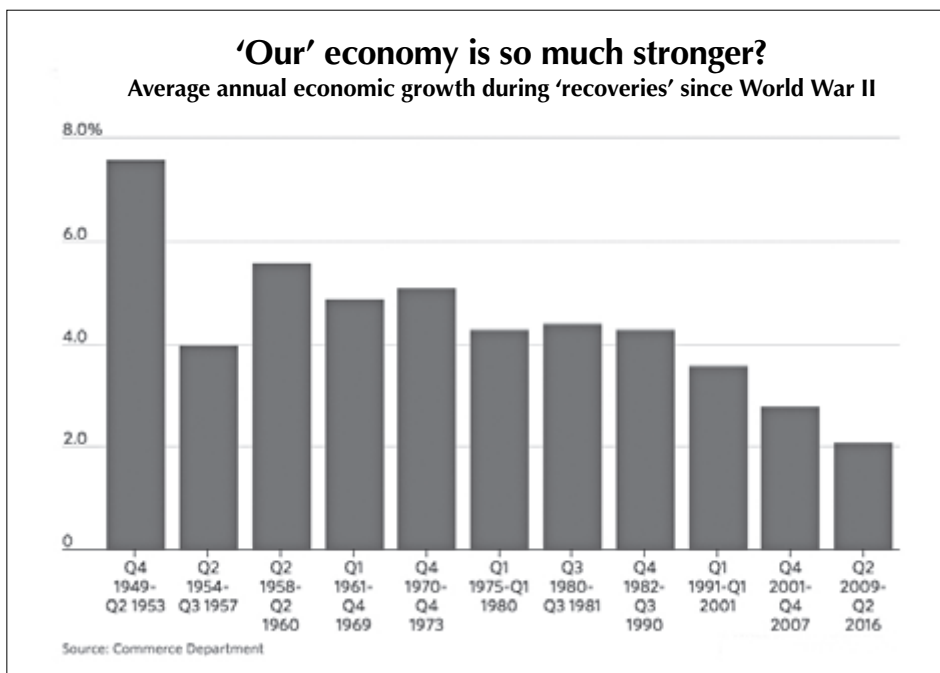
Perasso helped organize the campaigning in Vermont in July. “We were curious whether there would be a different response by working people there, where Sanders has held elected office since 1981,” Perasso said. “We found it’s no different. Rents in Burlington, where he was mayor, are skyrocketing. Many workers can only find part-time jobs, while others, like rock quarry workers we met, are being forced to work 60 hours a week.”

Occupy in electoral garb

“What’s come to be called the Sanders movement was always really Occupy in electoral garb,” Perasso said.

By claiming the problem is the 1 percent against the 99 percent, Occupy takes attention off the class struggle in the U.S. “It was clear at

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“Our economy is so much stronger” under current Democratic administration, said Hillary Clinton at Democratic convention. “What world is she living in?” replied SWP presidential candidate Alyson Kennedy. “And who does she mean by ‘our’?” Above: Chart shows capitalist “recovery” since Obama’s inauguration is weakest of any since end of World War II.

The very day of Clinton’s speech, Kennedy said, Ford Chief Financial Officer Robert Shanks told the press that “the growth is over.” Ford plans to accelerate “cost cutting” and slash production and jobs. And Fiat Chrysler has told the United Auto Workers that unless the union agrees to concessions, the company will stop building sedans and compact cars in the U.S.

Trump gets a hearing from many workers because he points to the deep economic crisis, factory closings, speedup and stagnant wages. “I am your voice,” he arrogantly boasts to workers.

But Trump’s demagogic scapegoating of immigrants and blaming Muslims for terrorism are deadly for the solidarity workers need to rebuild our unions and chart a course toward taking political power, Kennedy said.

Trump, Clinton talk law and order

Trump espouses the law-and-order rhetoric used by former President Bill Clinton when he signed the 1994 Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. That law, backed by Hillary Clinton, instituted “three strikes and you’re out” sentencing and draconian prison terms for drug-related charges, expanded the death penalty and added funding for 100,000 more cops on the streets, Kennedy said.

Clinton and the Democrats claim to oppose immigrant- and Muslim-bashing. But they back the Obama administration’s continued policy of deporting or jailing tens of thousands of workers without documents every year for the alleged “crime” of working. The Socialist Workers Party says, “Organize, unionize and demand no deportations” to unite the working class — regardless of national origin or religious beliefs.

Under the guise of opposing Trump’s vilification of Muslims, the Democratic convention featured Khizr Khan, a Muslim immigrant from Pakistan, whose

Socialist Workers Party campaign launches \$30,000 fund!

The Socialist Workers Party 2016 campaign has launched a \$30,000 Fund Drive from now through Sept. 20 so the party can campaign as widely as possible — across the country and internationally, from Puerto Rico to the United Kingdom — presenting the only working-class alternative to the two capitalist parties, the Democrats and Republicans, and win workers to the party. Send a generous contribution today to: Socialist Workers Party 2016 Campaign, 227 W. 29th St., 6th Floor, New York, NY 10001.

Canada: Hundreds protest cop killing of Somali worker

BY ANNETTE KOURI
AND JOHN STEELE

MONTREAL — Demonstrations in Ottawa, Montreal and other Canadian cities have protested the beating to death by Ottawa cops of Abdirahman Abdi in front of his apartment building July 24. Abdi, a 37-year-old car wash worker, immigrated to Canada from Somalia in 2009.

Witnesses reported that after police were called to deal with a disturbance in a nearby coffee shop, they chased Abdi to his apartment building where they pepper-sprayed him and beat him unconscious with their clubs and fists. The *Ottawa Citizen* reported that a video shows he was left in a pool of blood face down and handcuffed for nearly 10 minutes before paramedics arrived.

He was pronounced dead at the hospital the next day. His relatives

say doctors told them Abdi, who had mental health problems, was already dead when he arrived at the trauma center. A short video taken by neighbors after the beating shows Constables Daniel Montsion and Dave Weir kneeling beside Abdi. Their actions are being investigated by Ontario's Special Investigations Unit. Neither has been charged with a crime.

The National Council of Canadian Muslims has called for a thorough investigation while the head of the cop association says Abdi was "assaultive" and his violence had to be contained.

On July 26 over 500 people, the majority Caucasian, turned out for a vigil in a park near where Abdi died. One participant, who asked that his name not be used, said this showed that cop brutality was not limited to the United States. Hundreds marched to an Ot-



Militant/John Steele

July 28 rally in Montreal against cop killing of Abdirahman Abdi, a car wash worker in Ottawa, Ontario, originally from Somalia. Hundreds have taken part in protests in several cities.

tawa police station July 30 chanting, "Black lives matter."

"Abdirahman Abdi deserves justice. The police should pay the consequences for what they did," Idil Issa,

a Somali woman who said she was speaking for herself, told the crowd of about 150 at a July 28 demonstration in downtown Montreal. She then read condolences to the Abdi family in her maternal language.

A number of speakers at that rally noted the sentencing the same day of Toronto cop James Forcillo to six years in jail. Forcillo was convicted on a charge of attempted murder for his role in the shooting death of Toronto teenager Sammy Yatim in 2013. Forcillo is now out on bail while appealing his conviction.

No end to 15 years of US war in Afghanistan

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are being deployed against Islamic State. Thousands of NATO troops are staying as well, in what has become the longest U.S. war in history.

Hardest hit by these years of war are workers and peasants throughout the country. The numbers of Afghans internally displaced has more than doubled to 1.2 million since the beginning of 2013, reported Amnesty International.

Each day this year an average of 1,000 people have been forced from their homes, living in camps lacking adequate water, food and health facilities. Many have fled to the neighboring countries of Iran and Pakistan. About 20 percent of refugees arriving in Europe by boat last year were from Afghanistan.

Civilian casualties are at record highs during the first six months of this year, with more than 1,600 deaths and another 3,500 injured, according to a July 25 U.N. report. Almost a third of those killed or wounded were children.

The Afghan army and police are in shambles, despite efforts by U.S. troops to train them. Altogether they're supposed to number 352,000, but many are AWOL. Among Afghan special forces morale is also "wearing thin as they are increasingly called upon to lead the fight against the Taliban," reported the *Wall Street*

Journal July 27.

In southern Afghanistan, where the Taliban gained control in districts in Helmand and Uruzgan provinces, efforts by U.S. and Afghan forces have failed to effectively push them back, "with the government barely clinging to administrative buildings," reported the *New York Times*.

Islamic State gets foothold

Meanwhile, the Islamic State is making inroads in eastern Afghanistan near Pakistan's border. Gen. John Nicholson, top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, said that under special authority he was deploying an unspecified number of troops — in addition to those already stationed in the country — particularly in the districts of Achin and Kot. The U.S. military announced July 27 that five U.S. soldiers were wounded while battling Islamic State fighters in eastern Nangarhar province.

Four days earlier an Islamic State suicide bombing in the capital Kabul killed more than 80 people and wounded hundreds at a peaceful demonstration, mostly members of the Shiite Hazara minority demanding better access to electrical power in several rural provinces.

About 90 percent of Afghanistan's population are Sunni Muslims, with Shiites comprising 10 percent. The Taliban are predominantly based on Pashtun Sunnis. Hazaras have long faced sectarian discrimination and abuse from Sunni-based officials. Immediately after the bombing of the protesting Hazaras, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani ordered a 10-day ban on public protests.

"If we don't continue to protest, it will be an insult to the blood of those killed," responded Raihana Azad, a Hazara member of parliament.

Large numbers of Afghan Shiites have fled to Iran, and thousands have joined with Iranian forces in Syria fighting to support the Bashar al-Assad regime.

In Jebrail, a Hazara district of Herat, Afghanistan, near the border with Iran, where 100,000 people live, about 20 percent of the families had someone serving in Syria, a local of-

ficial told the *Times*.

The Iranian government is also working with the Taliban to set up a buffer zone along its 572-mile border with Afghanistan to keep Islamic State out.

Tehran is providing Taliban forces, which have been fighting against Islamic State, with money, some low-grade weaponry, ammunition and rocket-propelled grenades, according to *Foreign Policy* magazine. This marks a big shift from the Iranian government's longstanding opposition to the Taliban.

At the end of May Iranian President Hassan Rouhani signed an agreement with Afghan President Ghani and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to facilitate the transit of goods through Afghanistan to Iran's southern port of Chabahar and then on to India, a trade route that bypasses Pakistan.

Roots of today's war

Today's long war in Afghanistan has its roots in the April 1978 revolutionary upheaval that opened with the overthrow of President Mohammad Daud. The new government was headed by the Stalinist-led People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. A land reform was announced, along with a literacy campaign, legalization of trade unions, freedom of worship, and steps to advance the rights of women and nationalities.

These measures were implemented through administrative decree by the Stalinist regime, rather than organizing peasants and other working people into political and social life. This provided an opening for reactionary landlord and capitalist layers to mobilize opposition. As support for the government eroded, Moscow in December 1979 began sending tens of thousands of troops into Afghanistan to prop it up.

Taking advantage of this counter-revolutionary move by Moscow, the U.S. imperialist rulers helped arm and finance reactionary Islamist groups that forced the Soviet troops to withdraw in 1989. Many of those forces later became the Taliban, al-Qaeda and the core of Islamic State.

— CALENDAR —

CALIFORNIA

Oakland

Hear Socialist Workers Party Candidates for Vice President Osborne Hart and House of Representatives Jeff Powers: 'Our Party Is Your Party!' Fri., Aug. 12. Dinner, 6:30 p.m.; program, 7:30 p.m. 675 Hegenberger Road, Suite 250. Tel.: (510) 686-1351.

CANADA

Montreal

Reportback from July 28-30 Santo Domingo International Solidarity Conference with Revolutionary Cuba. Speaker: Michel Prairie, Communist League. Sat., Aug. 13, 6:30 p.m. Potluck benefit dinner for the Communist League's \$20,000 fund campaign. Donation: \$10. For location and further information: (514) 272-5840.

Join with United Mine Workers at Rally at U.S. Capitol

The coal bosses are using pro-business bankruptcy courts to tear up their obligations to provide retired UMW members with health care benefits and contribute to the pension fund.

Protest this attack on 22,000 retired union members, spouses and dependents.

**Thurs., Sept. 8
11 a.m.
Washington, DC**

For bus info visit www.umwa.org

—MILITANT LABOR FORUMS—

NEW YORK

New York

Abortion Rights — the Cutting Edge in the Fight for Women's Rights — and the 2016 Elections. Speaker: Nancy Boyasko, Socialist Workers Party. Fri., Aug. 12. Dinner, 6:45 p.m.; program, 7:30 p.m. 227 W. 29th St., 6th floor. Tel.: (646) 964-4793.

AUSTRALIA

Sydney

Speakout Against Northern Territory Prison Abuse of Aboriginal Youth. Speakers: Tim Grey, Aboriginal activist; Joanne Kuniansky, Communist League. Fri., Aug. 12, 7 p.m. Donation: \$4. Upstairs, 281-287 Beamish St., Campsie. Tel.: (02) 9718-9698.

—ON THE PICKET LINE—

MAGGIE TROWE, EDITOR

Help the *Militant* cover labor struggles around the world!

This column gives a voice to those engaged in battle and building solidarity today — including unionists striking US Foods, workers locked out by Honeywell and construction workers demanding safe conditions. I invite those involved in workers' battles to contact me at 306 W. 37th St., 13th Floor, New York, NY 10018; or (212) 244-4899; or themilitant@mac.com. We'll work together to ensure your story is told.

— Maggie Trowe

Dockworkers in 150 countries carry out 1-hour work stoppage

KEARNY, N.J. — While campaigning door to door for the Socialist Workers Party here I met two members of the International Longshoremen's Association who work at the port of Newark. Both told me of participating in a one-hour stop-work meeting July 7. The action took place from 8 to 9 a.m. local time at ports throughout the world. Port workers up and down the East and West coasts of North America, on the Gulf Coast and the Great Lakes participated. Workers in Europe, South America, Asia, Africa, Australia and New Zealand stood down as well.

"Dockers make an important contribution to the global economy," the call for the actions stated. "We work in an environment full of huge safety risks around the clock, but our biggest threat comes from our employers and governments who consistently launch wave after wave of attacks upon our pay, job security and working terms and conditions. ... Together we can win."

The action was called by the International Dockworkers Council, the International Transport Workers' Federation and European Transport

Workers' Federation. In a press release the following day, Jordi Aragunde, general coordinator of the International Dockworkers Council, announced that 150 countries had been impacted by the strike.

— Candace Wagner

Refusal to indict cops who killed Idaho rancher

Continued from front page

with his name. Jack Yantis' riderless horse was led around the rodeo grounds while the announcer recalled the role Yantis played in the community and participants cheered.

"I am utterly disgusted by the attorney general's report," Iva Henderson, who runs a small farm in Pollock, Idaho, told the *Militant* by phone July 31. "I listened to the recordings of the testimonies by the two deputies. They contradicted each other and the stories changed. There is a real cover-up and the attorney general's office is part of this."

Sheriff deputies had called Yantis to put down his bull, which had been struck by a car. Yantis, his wife Donna, his nephew Rowdy Paradis, and a friend headed to the highway.

Some witnesses said that Yantis told one of the cops to put "that piece of s--- away," referring to the rifle the



International Longshoremen's Association Facebook

Members of International Longshoremen's Association Local 1588 in Bayonne, New Jersey, take part in July 7 international dockers day of action and one-hour work stoppage.

cops used to shoot the bull, leaving it wounded but suffering.

Donna Yantis and Paradis stated that as Yantis was aiming at the back of the bull's head, one of the deputies spun him around and then both deputies unleashed a hail of bullets.

When Yantis' wife and nephew tried

to help him after he was shot, they were both arrested. Donna Yantis suffered a heart attack and was taken to a hospital.

According to the attorney general's report, the cops claim they told Yantis to put down his gun but instead he swung around and pointed it at them. They also claim that Yantis fired a shot

at them. The report states that the deputies' dashcam and body cams were not turned on.

Outraged over the killing and inspired by Black Lives Matter protests against other killings by cops around the country, friends and supporters of the Yantis family organized numerous protests to demand the cops be charged and the facts on the case released.

These included marches and rallies Nov. 14 and March 5 of several hundred in Council, a town of 816 people, and numerous smaller protests at the state Capitol in Boise. Some protesters carried signs saying "Ranchers Lives Matter."

A June 11 motorcycle and car run that included a poker game, spaghetti dinner and concert was held to raise money for the Yantis family. In July a three-man team wearing "Justice for Jack" shirts won second place in a wild cow milking contest.

"There is no accountability," Boise resident Rebecca Barrow, who grew up in Council and helped organize many of the actions demanding prosecution of the sheriff's deputies, said by phone July 30. "I fear for my children and all people knowing that in any kind of confrontation with law enforcement they can just shoot to kill saying they feared for their lives."

The Yantis family has filed a wrongful death civil lawsuit against Adams County.

Chuck Peterson, the family's attorney, criticized the attorney general's decision not to indict the cops. The jury should have had the chance to decide if there is proof beyond a reasonable doubt. "Isn't that what juries are for?" Peterson said.

Police in Idaho have shot and killed at least 54 people while on duty in the past 15 years. They were cleared in 50 of those deaths, four remain under investigation.



Justice for Jack Facebook

Crowd cheered as Mike Armistead, son-in-law of Jack Yantis, holding Yantis' grandson Diesel, led Yantis' horse around Council, Idaho, rodeo grounds July 30 in memory of the rancher, who was killed by sheriff's deputies last November.

25, 50, AND 75 YEARS AGO



August 16, 1991

On June 24 the U.S. Supreme Court issued a ruling pushing back the ability of coal miners disabled by black lung disease to benefit from a federal compensation program.

The 7-1 ruling upheld new, more restrictive Labor Department regulations designed to make it harder for coal miners to qualify for black lung benefits. Previous regulations said benefits could only be denied with proof a miner is capable of working in the mines or doing comparable work.

The latest ruling shifted the burden of proof onto the miner to disprove company claims that the disability had other causes.

In 1969 the black lung provisions of the Coal Mine Health and Safety Act were a major victory for the labor movement. The provisions were won as a result of a virtual uprising of coal mines centered in the West Virginia coalfields.



August 22, 1966

Nearly 400 antiwar activists were on hand to protest the opening of hearings by the House Un-American Activities Committee. HUAC is using the hearings in an attempt to smear the antiwar movement and to gain support for a bill by Texas Representative Pool.

The Pool bill, in the words of the New York Fifth Avenue Peace Parade Committee, "attempts to penalize any opposition to the war with penalties up to \$20,000 fine, 20 years in prison, or both."

At a press conference, Judy White, Socialist Workers Party candidate for governor of New York, read a statement. "The SWP urges all who oppose the war in Vietnam to protest government attempts to stifle antiwar sentiment, and we demand that the administration grant the antiwar movement its full democratic rights to present the facts about the war to the American people."



August 16, 1941

MINNEAPOLIS, August 11 — Tonight, eleven hours after leaders of Local 544-CIO were arraigned on the charge of "conspiracy to overthrow the government," the unholy alliance of Tobin-Roosevelt-bosses got a plain answer from the truck drivers of Minneapolis to the government's attempt to intimidate them by hounding their leaders. The answer was the regular monthly membership meeting of the union.

The union hall was packed with over 1,000 members. After sixty days of Blitzkrieg by government and Tobin's thugs, despite all the enormous pressure put on them, these men came out and showed where they stood.

The Tobin AFL "union" was also meeting. All the noses you could count in Tobin's hall amounted to 56. Count them: 1,000 for the CIO against 56 for the AFL. There's the answer to Tobin and the Department of Justice!

Events in New York, Chicago celebrate Cuban Revolution

BY SARA LOBMAN

NEW YORK—"For us, Moncada laid the foundations for the final struggle for real independence, which we won on Jan. 1, 1959," said Ana Silvia Rodríguez Abascal, Cuba's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations.

Rodríguez was speaking to more than 100 people at an event here to celebrate the July 26, 1953, attack on the Moncada army garrison in Santiago de Cuba. That action, led by Fidel Castro, began the revolutionary struggle by workers and peasants to bring down the U.S.-backed dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista that ended in victory less than six years later, opening the first socialist revolution in the Americas.

"Diplomatic relations between Cuba and the United States were re-established a year ago due to the self-sacrificing and heroic resistance of our people for more than half a century," Rodríguez said at the July 22 program. But for there to be normal relations, the U.S. government must end "the economic, commercial, and financial blockade," return the Guantánamo naval base, end "destabilizing" television and radio broadcasts to the island, and compensate "our people for the human and economic harm we have suffered and continue to suffer."

Such relations, she said, will never be achieved by telling the Cuban people "to forget our past" of U.S. imperialist exploitation and oppression, referring to the message President Barack Obama presented in a public speech in Cuba earlier this year.

Juanita Young, a longtime activist against police brutality and mother of Malcolm Ferguson, killed by a New York police officer in 2000, spoke about the trip to Cuba that she and other family members of people killed by the cops made this past spring.

One Cuban leader told the delegation, "Obama's demand that Cuba 'forget the past' is like asking you to forget your sons," Young said. "If we lived in Cuba, our sons would still be alive."

Young said she saw a "different way of living" in Cuba. She noted the lack of police intimidation at the massive May Day demonstration, the 11- and 12-year-olds who volunteered to help younger students at the primary school the delegation visited, and the treatment she received at the local hospital when she was ill. "People don't compete as much. They try to help each other," she said.

Rosemary Mealy gave a historical overview of the conditions in Cuba under the Batista dictatorship and Fidel

Castro's courtroom speech at his trial following the 1953 attack, "History Will Absolve Me." She described the Cuban Revolution's record of "solidarity with countries around the world suffering from imperialism," calling attention to the hundreds of thousands of Cuban volunteers who, over 15 years, helped defeat South Africa's apartheid army after it invaded Angola in 1975, and the place of Cuban medical personnel in responding to the Ebola epidemic in Africa.

The program was organized by the New York Cuba Solidarity Committee, and held at the Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Educational Center.

Ben Ramos presented a message on behalf of Pro Libertad, which campaigns to free Puerto Rican political prisoners. Participants also enjoyed musical performances by Bomba Yo and Circa '95.



BY ILONA GERSH

CHICAGO — "We had a victory in winning freedom for the Cuban Five,"

Cuban leader: Up to US to dismantle hostile policies

Continued from front page

revolution in Cuba, which brought a workers and farmers government to power, Washington has used sabotage, an attempted invasion, diplomatic isolation and an unprecedented economic embargo to try to overturn the rule of the working class and its allies.

Recognizing that more than 50 years of this course had failed to accomplish its aims, President Barack Obama—and a substantial majority in the ruling class he represents—decided it was time to try something else. Obama and Cuban President Raúl Castro announced Dec. 17, 2014, the beginning of talks to restore diplomatic relations. Simultaneously, the last of the Cuban Five, revolutionaries imprisoned by Washington for over 16 years, were released and returned home to Cuba.

Vidal said achievements of talks since then include the removal of Cuba from the State Department list of state sponsors of terrorism and the creation of the Cuba-U.S. Bilateral Commission. "It was important to have a mechanism of this type to address unresolved issues, cooperation in areas of mutual interest and talks on bilateral and multilateral matters," she said. Ten such agreements have been signed and others are cur-



Cubadebate/Ismael Francisco

Inset, Militant photos by Naomi Craine

Thousands celebrate opening battle of Cuban Revolution July 26 in Sancti Spiritus, Cuba. Inset, Ana Silvia Rodríguez Abascal, left, Cuba's deputy permanent representative to United Nations, and Juanita Young, who visited Cuba in May as part of delegation of fighters against police brutality, address New York event.



said José López, executive director of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center, at an event here celebrating the July 26 anniversary of the opening battle of the Cuban Revolution.

Fernando González, one of the Cuban revolutionaries who was framed up and imprisoned in the U.S. for

many years, "was a cellmate of my brother," López said. Oscar López Rivera is a Puerto Rican independence fighter imprisoned by Washington for more than 35 years.

"The U.S. ultimately had to recognize Cuba, and my brother will be

Continued on page 7

rently being negotiated related to drug trafficking, search and rescue, ocean oil-spill response and meteorology.

Embargo remains in force

But the bulk of Washington's economic embargo still remains in force, she said. Imports from the U.S. to Cuba are severely restricted, exports from Cuba to the U.S. virtually impossible and banking relations have not been normalized. Cuba can still not make financial transfers, and the U.S. government continues to impose heavy fines on banks and foreign financial entities that do business there.

The Obama administration has imposed penalties totaling more than \$14 billion, "a record amount in the history of the application of the blockade against our country," Vidal said, "on U.S. and foreign entities for their legitimate associations with Cuba." This continues to have "an intimidating effect on U.S. and international banks. Thus far, the U.S. government has failed to issue a political statement or legal document explaining to world banks that operations with Cuba are legitimate, and that they won't be sanctioned."

Washington's aim is to find, support and build forces in Cuba that can be agents for the restoration of capitalism and open up for U.S. bosses to exploit working people. The U.S. government has approved measures it hopes will further this goal, such as restoring mail services, removal of caps on remittances and easing some restrictions on U.S. citizens visiting Cuba.

In June the U.S. Department of Transportation authorized six U.S. airlines to begin direct flights to Cuban cities outside Havana, and says it will soon approve flights to the capital. A U.S. cruise ship docked in Havana in early May for the first time in nearly 40 years.

During his visit to Cuba in March, Obama pressed for Google to play a big role in expanding the internet in Cuba. But to Washington's chagrin, the Cuban

government insists on its sovereign right to control this development.

In May Cuban officials said the Chinese telecom firm Huawei was "advanced in negotiations with a Cuban company" to expand operations on the island. Within a month, the U.S. Commerce Department issued a subpoena to Huawei to turn over all information regarding export or re-export of U.S. technology to Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Sudan and Syria, according to the *New York Times*.

'Return Guantánamo to Cuba'

"The return of the illegally occupied territory in Guantánamo, which is the only case in the world of perpetually and illegally occupying a military base, against the will of the government and people of the country where it is situated, is also important for Cuba," Vidal said. "Just like the blockade, we have presented this issue in every meeting." Other "permanent issues on Cuba's agenda" include U.S. policies aimed at promoting emigration from Cuba outside normal channels, subversion programs and illegal radio and television broadcasts directed at the island, she said.

"Does pursuing a civilized relationship with Washington mean sacrificing the Revolution's anti-imperialist aims?" asked *Granma* reporter Sergio Alejandro Gómez.

"Absolutely not," said Vidal. Cuba will not renounce "its foreign policy, committed to the just causes of the world, the defense of people's right to self-determination and support for sister nations," such as Venezuela, she said.

Gómez asked whether a normalization of relations with Washington is even possible. Even if all the pending issues were to be resolved, including lifting the embargo and returning Guantánamo, Vidal said, the U.S. "would also have to give up its historic ambition to decide and control Cuba's destiny, otherwise, normal relations will not be possible."

For further reading....

Cuba and the Coming American Revolution
by Jack Barnes

About struggles of working people in the imperialist heartland, the youth attracted to them, and the example set by the people of Cuba that revolution is not only necessary — it can be made.

Women in Cuba: The Making of a Revolution Within the Revolution
From Santiago de Cuba and the Rebel Army, to

the Birth of the Federation of Cuban Women

by Vilma Espín, Asela de los Santos, Yolanda Ferrer

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Lessons of US bombing of Hiroshima, Nagasaki

Call for unilateral US nuclear disarmament remains key for working class today

BY MARK THOMPSON

Each year events worldwide mark August 6 and 9, 1945, when U.S. warplanes exploded atomic bombs over the densely populated cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan. Tens of thousands of civilians were killed in an act of “deliberate and cold-blooded extermination,” as it was described just days later in a statement by the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party.

It is important for working people to recall this horrific destruction of human life. But it is not just a matter of history. From that time on, the working class has had to face the reality that the imperialist rulers possess the military capacity to annihilate all human life. And, as they showed in Japan, they will unleash these weapons if they judge it necessary to uphold their class rule and advance their insatiable drive for profits.

The U.S. nuclear attack on Hiroshima and Nagasaki capped the end of World War II. The German rulers had surrendered in Europe on May 7, and the Japanese forces were militarily defeated in the Pacific. Washington had invaded the islands of Okinawa in southern Japan, and the Soviet Union was about to attack from the north.

On Aug. 6, 1945, the U.S. warplane Enola Gay dropped a uranium bomb dubbed “Little Boy” over Hiroshima, exploding it almost 2,000 feet above ground for maximum effect. Everything within four square miles was obliterated. Some 70,000 people were killed instantly, many of them incinerated. Within five years the death toll rose to 200,000 as a result of injuries and radiation sickness caused by the bomb. Two-thirds of the city’s buildings were destroyed.

Three days later the U.S. bomber Bockscar dropped a plutonium bomb, “Fat Man,” over the industrial seaport of Nagasaki. Some 40,000 people were killed instantly. Within five years the toll had risen to 140,000.

In an Aug. 9 radio address, President Harry Truman threatened to continue the atomic bombing of Japanese cities unless Tokyo surrendered unconditionally. The Japanese government did so the next day.

The deliberate targeting of civilians, mainly working people, was not unique

July 26 events

Continued from page 6

freed,” López said. He announced that the Puerto Rican Cultural Center is organizing buses to Washington, D.C. for an Oct. 9 national protest outside the White House demanding freedom for Oscar López.

More than 60 people took part in the celebration, held July 28 and sponsored by the Chicago Cuba Coalition. Other speakers included Tom Hansen, director of El Centro Autónomo, where the event took place; Rixio Barrios, deputy from the Consulate of Venezuela in Chicago; and Mary Johnson, a long-time fighter against police brutality and co-founder of Families of the Wrongfully Convicted, who is fighting to win freedom for her son who was railroaded to prison.



Front page of *Militant* following U.S. atomic bombings stood in sharp contrast to Aug. 11, 1945, cartoon in Communist Party's *Daily Worker*.



to Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It was a feature of World War II on all sides, from the German bombing of London to the British bombing of Hamburg and Dresden in Germany. Nearly 600 U.S. bombers dropped 1,665 tons of munitions on Tokyo March 9-10, 1945, creating a firestorm that destroyed 16 square miles and killed 100,000 people, mainly women, children and old men.

‘Capitalism is enemy of the people’

As Socialist Workers Party National Secretary James P. Cannon put it in a speech Aug. 22, 1945, “Capitalism is demonstrating itself every day more and more, in so-called peace as in war, as the enemy of the people. Bomb the people to death! Burn them to death with incendiary bombs! Break up their industries and starve them to death! And if that is not horrible enough, then blast them off the face of the earth with atomic bombs! That is the program of liberating capitalism.”

While the SWP immediately condemned the atomic annihilation in Japan, other currents in the workers movement, like the Stalinist Communist Party, which supported Washington in the war, hailed it as “super-duper.”

To this day, the U.S. government defends its decision to drop the atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. When President Barack Obama spoke in Hiroshima May 27, the first sitting U.S. president to visit there, he made no apology for what Washington had done.

The decision to use nuclear weapons was a political judgment, not a military one. The first detonation of a small nuclear bomb had been conducted just three weeks earlier in New Mexico. Washington was keen to test its new weapon on a real target and to impress upon the world its supreme power through the obliteration of a whole city by a single bomb.

Imperialist goals in the Pacific

Far from ending World War II, this was intended as an opening salvo in a new war. Washington’s battle with Tokyo had been for control of the Pacific. It considered China, in particular, as its prize and intended to crush the anti-imperialist revolution unfolding there. The U.S. wartime alliance with the Soviet Union was coming to an end, and the U.S. rulers wanted to warn Moscow not to interfere with their ambitions in Asia

and the Middle East and were preparing to drive the Soviet army back out of Eastern Europe.

There “can be no compromise,” Truman declared in October 1945. The “atomic bombs which fell on Hiroshima and Nagasaki must be a signal” to Moscow.

But the rulers’ plans ran up against the working class. A revolution by the workers and peasants ended foreign domination of China and made it clear that any intervention by Washington would be fiercely resisted. At the same time, mass protests by U.S. troops across Asia demanded, “Bring us home now.”

Instead of a “hot” war to herald a new “American Century,” what followed was four decades of the Cold War. Over that time, Washington considered using nuclear weapons during military conflicts many times: in China, Korea and Vietnam in the 1950s; against Cuba in the 1960s; in Vietnam again in the 1960s and ’70s, and on numerous occasions in the Middle East since 1946. Each time it weighed the political price it would pay and decided against it.

Arms race

A feature of the Cold War was an arms race between Washington and Moscow to develop and test new bombs and missiles, including the hydrogen bomb, and to amass massive nuclear weapons stockpiles. The governments of the U.K., France and China also developed and tested nuclear arms. By

1986, the number of nuclear warheads had grown to 70,300.

Today, there are over 15,000 nuclear warheads worldwide, most of them hundreds of times more powerful than those dropped on Japan. Washington and Moscow each have more than 7,000. This is enough to destroy human life on earth many times over. Moreover, almost 4,000 are actively deployed, of which nearly 1,800 U.S., Russian, British and French warheads are on high alert for use at short notice. The other nuclear-armed states today are India, Israel, North Korea and Pakistan.

The Obama administration has begun a \$1 trillion “atomic revitalization” program to develop new warheads and delivery systems over the next three decades. At the same time it is installing anti-ballistic missile systems in eastern Europe and South Korea, enhancing its strategic position against China and Russia and opening the prospect of a renewed nuclear arms race.

The danger that nuclear weapons will again be used is increasing in the world today, not lessening, as the old world order that was in place over the decades following World War II comes apart. The need to prevent this is a powerful argument for why the working class needs to overturn capitalist rule and replace it with the rule of working people. And, it’s why the Socialist Workers Party continues to demand that Washington unilaterally dismantle its deadly nuclear arsenal immediately.

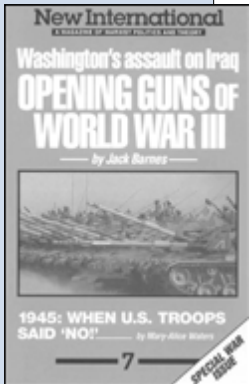
RECOMMENDED READING ...



The Bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki
by James P. Cannon \$25
In *The Struggle for Socialism in the 'American Century'*



1945: When U.S. Troops Said 'No!'
by Mary-Alice Waters \$14
In *New International* no. 7
Also in Spanish, French, Swedish



U.S. Imperialism Has Lost the Cold War
by Jack Barnes \$16
In *New International* no. 11
Also in Spanish, French, Farsi, Swedish

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Malcolm X: I'm for intelligent, disciplined defense of rights

Malcolm X: The Last Speeches is one of Pathfinder's August Books of the Month. These excerpts are from a speech and discussion at a Feb. 15, 1965, rally of the Organization of Afro-American Unity, attended by 700 people in New York. After splitting with the Nation of Islam, Malcolm founded the OAAU in June 1964. Its aim, he said, was "to use whatever means necessary to bring about a society in which the 22 million Afro-Americans are recognized and respected as human beings." This talk was given soon after Malcolm's Feb. 3-4 trip to Alabama and the day after the firebombing of his house, one of several attempts on his life by the Nation. A week later, on Feb. 21, 1965, this outstanding working-class revolutionary leader was assassinated. Copyright © 1989. Reprinted by permission of Pathfinder Press.

BOOKS OF THE MONTH

BY MALCOLM X

I went to Alabama purposely to see what was happening down there. While I was there, I wasn't trying to interfere with [Martin Luther] King's program, whatever it was. He was in jail. I talked, I spoke at Tuskegee, [Laughter] I spoke at Tuskegee Institute last Tuesday night, I think it was. There were over 3,000 students and others. And it was the stu-



May 1963 civil rights march in Birmingham, Alabama, a center of proletarian-led struggle that smashed racial segregation. Young fighters in Alabama insisted on hearing Malcolm X in 1965.

dents themselves that night who insisted that I go with them the next morning to Selma, some students from SNCC [Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee]. So I went. After giving it careful thought, I went.

When I got to Selma, the press began to bug me right away. And I wouldn't even tell them my name. I just ignored them completely. So they insisted that I hold a press conference. I didn't ask for a press conference. They insisted that I hold a press conference. Which was held. And while the press was there, the Klan was there. When you're looking at the cops in Alabama, you're looking at the Klan. That's who the Klan is. [Applause]

Knowing where I was, right then and there, I reminded Lyndon B. Johnson of the promise he had made to good, well-meaning Americans when he was running for president. He said that if he were elected he would pull the sheets off the Ku Klux Klan. Did he not say that? Yes, he did. So, here you've got Klansmen knocking little babies down the road with a ... You've got Klansmen knocking Black women down in front of a camera and that poor fool Black man standing on the sidelines because he's nonviolent. Now, we don't go along with a thing like that. [Applause]

Well, it was then, in Selma, Alabama, in front of the face of the Ku Klux Klan that I demanded in your name, the Organization of Afro-American Unity — could I make that demand in your name? [Applause] — that since 97 percent of the Black people in this coun-

try had supported Lyndon B. Johnson and his promise, and now that his party has the largest majority that any president has had in a long time, Lyndon B. Johnson is obligated to the Black man in this country to put up an immediate federal commission to investigate the Ku Klux Klan, which is a criminal organization organized to murder and maim and cripple Black people in this country.

And, I pointed out that if Lyndon B. Johnson could not keep his promise and expose the Ku Klux Klan, then we would be within our rights to come to Alabama and organize the Black people of Alabama and pull the sheets off the Klan ourselves. [Applause] And we can do it. Brothers and sisters, we can do it. And the federal government won't do it. Since then, they've been talking about a little investigation of the Klan and the Citizens' Council and the Black Muslims and some of the others. But they're not going to do anything. The only way the Klan is going to be stopped is when you and I organize and stop them ourselves. Yes, that's what's out there. ...

Don't I think that we should become involved in some direct action, demonstrations? We are going to unveil our program on that next Sunday at two o'clock. Brother, I'm for anything you're for as long as it's going to get some results. I'm for anything you're for. [Applause] As long as it's intelligent, as long as it's disciplined, as long as it's aimed in the right direction — I'm for it.

And what determines what we should do, or shouldn't do, will in no way be

influenced by what the man downtown thinks. We don't need anybody on the outside laying the ground rules by which we are going to fight our battles. We'll study the battle, study the enemy, study what we're up against, and then outline or map our own battle strategy. And we'll get some results. But as long as you have someone coming in from the outside telling you how you should do it and how you shouldn't do it — and always what they tell you is nonviolence, peaceful, love everybody, forgive them Lord, they know not what they do. As long as you get into that kind of bag, why you'll never get anywhere.

What we want is to let them know that our aims are just. Our aims are within the realm of justice. And since they are, we're justified in going after those aims.

Don't you know it's a disgrace for the United States of America to let — to have Martin Luther King, my good friend, the Right Reverend Dr. Martin, in Alabama, using school children to do what the federal government should do. Think of this. Those school children shouldn't have to march. Why Lyndon Johnson is supposed to have troops down there marching. Your children aren't supposed to have to get out there and demonstrate just to vote. Is it that bad? It shows our so-called leaders have been outmaneuvered.

Every day, you look on the television, you listen to the radio, you read the newspaper, and see where Black people are going to jail by the hundreds, by the thousands. You don't do this in a civilized country. In any other country, the government would do its job. But this exists only because the government is not doing its job. They've got Martin Luther King down there with crocodile tears crying his way into jail and still coming out and haven't got the ballot yet. We can get the ballot. [Applause]

Didn't they pass the civil rights bill? Just a minute, didn't they pass the civil rights bill and have made it legal. Don't you know that anywhere our people want to register and vote they're within their legal rights? All you and I have to do is show that we're men. And when we, and when they go to vote, we go with them. With them. With them. Prepared! [Applause]

Not prepared to make trouble. Not prepared to cause trouble. But prepared to protect ourselves in case trouble comes our way. [Applause] And no one can find fault with that.

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August **BOOKS OF THE MONTH**

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by Malcolm X
Speeches and interviews, including the final two speeches given prior to his assassination on Feb. 21, 1965.
\$17. **Special price: \$12.75**

The Jewish Question
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— SWP CAMPAIGN STATEMENT —

Oppose US imperialist war drive!

Continued from front page

non fodder—working people in uniform—killed, maimed and treated with callous disregard for their medical needs when they return.

The U.S. rulers have shown they will use any means to maintain power. Washington dropped atomic bombs on Japan 71 years ago this month. The Socialist Workers Party called this an act of “deliberate and cold-blooded extermination.” Successive administrations have come within a hair’s breadth of unleashing nuclear weapons against China, Iran, Korea, Cuba, Vietnam and Iraq.

The Obama administration has launched a \$1 trillion program to modernize its deadly nuclear arsenal—a clear signal the rulers are prepared to use these weapons—and is provocatively placing anti-missile systems closer to the borders of Russia and China.

Democrat Clinton claims her Republican rival Trump “is not a man we can trust with nuclear weapons.” In fact, working people can trust none of the capitalist parties or politicians. The very workings of their imperialist system—which is in a historic crisis that they are incapable of resolv-

ing—fuels trade rivalry and political instability. This will spark more wars. As long as nuclear weapons exist these wars increase the danger they will be used. And any use of nukes poses the risk of nuclear annihilation.

The Socialist Workers Party calls for Washington to immediately and unilaterally dismantle all its nuclear weapons.

The only way to end the rulers’ profit-driven drive to war and the threat of nuclear devastation is to end the dictatorship of capital and replace it with a workers and farmers government.

The working class needs no nuclear weapons, as Cuban communist leader Fidel Castro explained in 2005. Revolutionary Cuba has “never considered producing nuclear weapons because we don’t need them,” he said. “We possess a weapon as powerful as nuclear ones ... the invincible power of moral weapons.”

This is the course the Socialist Workers Party is fighting for—a world without war and exploitation, a world organized by workers and farmers based on human solidarity, not the dog-eat-dog values of capitalism. Join us!

Three parties, two classes in 2016 campaign

Continued from page 3

the convention that Sanders doesn’t control them. He was even booed several times. The ‘Occupiers’ aim to take over the Democratic Party — and are making headway.”

The demands of Sanders and Occupy — taxing the 1 percent and campaign finance reform — have nothing to do with building a working-class party and mass social movement that fights to organize the unorganized and oppose imperialism and its wars.

Same crisis in Canada

Sylvestre from the Communist League in Canada spent weeks campaigning in Vermont, along with another young campaigner from Montreal for a number of days.

“And just like the Socialist Workers Party, we’ve been going door to door in Canada,” said Sylvestre, “introducing our party, talking with our fellow workers, opposing imperialism and its wars.”

“Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has said ‘we’re back’ as an imperialist power,” Sylvestre pointed out, sending troops to Iraq and selling arms to Saudi Arabia as it aids U.S. government intervention in the Middle East.

“Working people in Canada face the same crisis as workers in the U.S.,” he said. “This includes low wages, the proliferation of part-time jobs, cuts in services, police brutality, speedup and on-the-job injuries.

“We’re looking forward to coming back to campaign with you, and we also invite you to come to Canada to campaign alongside us,” Sylvestre said.

The working class is an international class, Ken-

nedy said, and the Socialist Workers Party is an internationalist working-class party. “We start with the world,” Perasso said. “We look to the Cuban Revolution as an example of how it’s possible to take power out of the hands of the ruling rich.”

Perasso and Kennedy will travel to Puerto Rico in September to see firsthand the conditions in this U.S. colony. They will speak out against Puerto Rico’s colonial status and for freedom for Oscar López Rivera, jailed in the U.S. for the last 35 years for his participation in the fight for independence.

Kennedy will also tour the United Kingdom and France, and running mate Osborne Hart will visit Australia and New Zealand.

After the Democratic Party convention, Hillary Clinton began a bus tour through Pennsylvania and Ohio, Kennedy noted. “But she didn’t go to West Virginia,” where Clinton is hated by coal miners for crowing that she’s going to close down more coal mines and throw miners out of work.

“The Socialist Workers Party will be going to West Virginia,” Kennedy said. “But we won’t be riding past working-class neighborhoods on a bus. We’ll be walking, knocking on workers’ doors.”

“Everywhere we go, we discuss the need to build a powerful workers’ movement,” Kennedy said. “To make a fundamental change by taking political power out of the hands of the capitalist class. Join us!”

Many participants in the New York event came early for a fine dinner and stayed afterwards for dessert and discussion. Inspired by the program and political opportunities in front of the Socialist Workers Party, they contributed \$10,000 to advance its work.

On coal, jobs: start with working class

BY MAGGIE TROWE

In a letter below, Jerry Gardner asks about the Socialist Workers Party’s position on coal production, providing an opportunity to compare the approach of the three major parties — the capitalist Democrats and Republicans and the working-class Socialist Workers Party — on jobs, energy and the stewardship of nature.

REPLY TO A READER

The SWP starts with the interests of the world working class — including the need of workers and farmers in Asia, Africa and elsewhere for reliable access to electricity — and joins struggles for unions, safe working conditions and jobs, and against practices that harm the land, water and air.

“If we translate everything commonly thought of as an environmental issue into how to advance the protection of the working class, and how the working class can extend that protection to all, then we can hardly ever go wrong,” SWP National Secretary Jack Barnes said in a 1993 talk published in *Capitalism’s World Disorder*.

With the worldwide contraction of capitalist production and trade, layoffs in coal, oil and manufacturing are rising. The coal bosses use the downturn to attack the union, tear up pensions, speed up production and lower safety standards, leading to an increase of respiratory disease and unsafe conditions.

In recent door-to-door campaigning in Utah, Socialist Workers Party members had discussions with workers critical of the Obama administration’s policy to limit coal production with no regard for the thousands who lose their jobs, a policy supported by petty-bourgeois groups with a catastrophist “leave it in the ground” approach to fossil fuels.

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton angered many when she said, “We’re going to put a lot of coal miners and coal companies out of business,” while vaguely promising “economic opportunity” from “renewable energy.”

Republican nominee Donald Trump demagogically pledged, “Our steelworkers and our miners are going back to work again,” proposing free rein to mine bosses and lifting “restrictions on the production of American energy.”

In sharp contrast to the capitalist candidates, Socialist Workers Party presidential candidate Alyson Kennedy — a former coal miner — puts forward a working-class road to defend land and labor. Kennedy explains that coal causes premature deaths every year and produces enormous carbon emissions. While it will remain a major power source for some time, it’s not the solution to humanity’s long-term energy needs.

“Under the capitalist system that puts profits before human needs,” Kennedy said in a May 11 statement, “the inherent dangers in mining, the environmental consequences from uncontrolled burning of coal, and the energy needs of millions worldwide will never be solved. Under capitalism any transition to cleaner energy production means throwing thousands of miners out of work. The working class in power would ensure that every miner is guaranteed a socially useful job and rewarding place in the process of organizing such a transition.”

An example of this working-class approach can be seen in how, when the sugar industry in Cuba had to be restructured, the revolutionary government there held thousands of meetings with sugar workers and guaranteed their wages through training and the transition to other jobs. Workers and their organizations helped shape each step of the process.

“The working class must end forever the rule of the bosses,” Kennedy said. “Taking political power into our own hands, coal miners and other workers can organize to ensure no worker has to die on the job. We can take control of the stewardship of labor and the environment, and organize access to energy and electricity, equalizing workers’ conditions worldwide.”

Kennedy urges workers to join her in Washington, D.C., Sept. 8 at the United Mine Workers rally against bosses’ moves to end health care and pension benefits for thousands of retired miners and their families.

— LETTERS —

Coal and miners’ jobs

The *Militant*’s reports on the socialist campaign seem to say that a workers government will put coal miners back to work mining coal. I think this is incorrect.

Given the realities of climate change and the role of burning fossil fuel, a workers government would move with all possible haste to shut down coal production and fracking. It would put workers back to work, yes, rebuilding the infrastructure and energy systems of the world.

*Jerry Gardner
College Park, Georgia*

Paper keeps me updated

Please continue sending me these papers. They really help keep me updated on “valid issues.”
*A prisoner
Florida*

‘Militant’ Prisoners’ Fund

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Change will come

The current election is important, but I just don’t see any difference between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. I know eventually a change will come in this country, but in social movements.
*Graham Rowley
Erie, Pennsylvania*

The letters column is an open forum on subjects of interest to working people. Where necessary letters will be abridged. Please indicate if you prefer that your initials be used rather than your full name.